

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An energy efficient elevator system comprising:
 - an alternating current power supply grid;
 - at least one variable speed drive for driving an elevator motor;
 - at least one connector connected between the alternating current power supply grid and the at least one variable speed drive, and capable of which selectively disconnecting disconnects the at least one variable speed drive from the alternating current power supply grid; and
 - a control system connected to the alternating current power supply grid, the control system having an output device connected to the at least one connector and controlling the at least one connector to selectively disconnect the at least one variable speed drive from the alternating current power supply when the at least one variable speed drive has been idle for a predetermined period of time.
2. (Original) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1 comprising a three phase AC power source.
3. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1 wherein:
 - the at least one variable speed drive comprises an isolation transformer having a line side, at least one silicon controlled rectifier, a control circuit, and a ripple filter, wherein the at least one connector is connected to the line side of the isolation transformer of the at least one variable speed drive.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) An energy efficient elevator system comprising:
 - an alternating current power supply grid;

at least one variable speed drive for driving an elevator motor;
at least one connector connected between the alternating current power supply grid and the at least one variable speed drive, and capable of disconnecting which selectively disconnects the at least one variable speed drive from the alternating current power supply grid for an interval of time; and

a control system connected to the alternating current power supply grid, the control system having an output device connected to the at least one connector and controlling the at least one connector to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive from the alternating current power supply grid for the interval of time when the at least one variable speed drive has been idle for a predetermined period of time.

6. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 5 wherein:
 - the at least one connector comprises a gate; and
 - the control system output device controls the gate to connect the at least one variable speed drive to the alternating current power supply grid and controls the gate to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive from the alternating current power supply grid.
7. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 5 wherein the control system controls the at least one connector to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive when the at least one variable speed drive is idle for at least 60 seconds.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1, wherein the connector is a contactor.

10. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1, wherein the connector is a solid state device.
11. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 10, wherein the solid state device is a switch.
12. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1, wherein the at least one variable speed drive is disconnected from all power sources.
13. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 12, wherein the at least one variable speed drive is disconnected from all power sources for a predetermined interval of time.
14. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 1, wherein the control system controls the at least one connector to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive when the at least one variable speed drive is idle for at least 60 seconds.
15. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 5, wherein the interval of time is one of a plurality of intervals of time within a twenty-four hour period.
16. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 5, wherein the control system disconnects the at least one connector after a period of system inactivity.
17. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 16, wherein the control system reconnects the at least one connector upon user initiation.
18. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of Claim 16, wherein the control system reconnects the at least one connector after the duration of the interval of time.
19. (Currently Amended) An energy efficient elevator system comprising:
an alternating current power supply grid;

at least one variable speed drive for driving an elevator motor;

at least one connector connected between the alternating current power supply grid and the at least one variable speed drive, and capable of disconnecting which selectively disconnects the at least one variable speed drive from all sources of power;

and

a control system connected to the alternating current power supply grid, the control system having an output device connected to the at least one connector and controlling the at least one connector to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive from all sources of power when the at least one variable speed drive has been idle for a predetermined period of time.

20. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 18, wherein the control system is configured to disconnect the at least one variable speed drive from all sources of power when the at least one variable speed drive is idle for a predetermined period of time.
21. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 19, wherein the predetermined period of time is at least 60 seconds.
22. (Previously Presented) The energy efficient elevator system of claim 18, wherein the variable speed drive is disconnected from the alternating current power supply grid and a direct current power supply.